

THE GARZETTE

W4GR

Volume 16, Issue 2

147.075+ 444.525+5mhz 53.110 -1mhz

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From the Presidents Mic!



QST! QST! de WA4ZXV, Norm Schklar

The words out, **No Code Required!** It's really good news, now the CW portion will be quieter and allow for more contacts. It won't be crowded with all those new Amateur Radio Operators that want to try out their hand at their newly learned skills with the first mode of digital signaling. Fewer folks will be able to spoil the fun of copying code on some of the movies depicting WWI and WWII wireless communications. I would expect the number of hams will increase over the next few months, and then it will slow down again. Reality is that there will be some safety in numbers. While we haven't been fading away, we haven't been setting the woods on fire with new licensees. I use CW because I think it is interesting and a little bit of a challenge. I picked it up after 35 years of NO CODE.

Welcome aboard all new hams or upgraded hams! It's a great hobby and great service to the nation. After all, when all else fails...Ham Radio

TechFest 2007. What a fun and interesting event it was. I'm sure it was the biggest yet in number of presenters and viewers. It really causes us to give a lot of thought to where we want to take it from here. Get bigger and work harder, or leave it as it has been and slack off on the effort. I know it would be a lot more fun for me if I didn't have to work so hard. The thing is: it's really bigger than GARS. It's a great place to promote Amateur Radio to the North Georgia community. We had several non-hams go through the tables, we had several Clubs or Groups represented which demonstrated a broad spectrum of possible activities to the ham and the "want to be ham" community. We had offers from two clubs to help in the preparation of next years event. They realize it's a strain on any club to but together such an interesting event. I surely don't want to leave out Gwinnett ARES as a valuable contributor in displaying and operations. They give up their time, use their creativity and expend resources to participate.

Activities and events such as TechFest, Field Day, Holiday parties, scholarship fund, repeater maintenance, sponsoring youth activities and helping with Crew73 take time and financial resources. I often hear that it just doesn't feel right to do volunteer work for a donation. Well, it would take us a lot more time, manpower, planning and begging to come up with a replacement for these donations. If you are not participating, and can, please contact Amy to get on the roster. We've got enough participants now to get the job done, but a little relief and sharing of responsibilities would surely make things easier.

73 es hp to cu agn sn de Norm, WA4ZXV

February 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Dog Show	3 Dog Show- Breakfast 0730
4 Dog Show	5 2 m Club net @ 2000	6	7 6m Club net @ 2100	8	9	10 Breakfast 0730
11	12 2 m Club net @ 2000	13 club meeting 7:30 pm	14 6m Club net @ 2100	15	16	17 Breakfast 0730
18	19 2 m Club net @ 2000	20	21 6m Club net @ 2100	22	23	24 Breakfast 0730
25	26 2 m Club net @ 2000	27	28 6m Club net @ 2100	Mar. 1	Mar. 2	Mar. 3 Breakfast 0730

GARS Recurring Calendar

- Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM.
 Check the Web Site for Location.
- Every Monday at 8 PM local time: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2 meter repeater
- Every Wednesday at 9 PM local time: GARS 6 meter net on the GARS
 6 meter repeater
- Every Saturday at 7:30 AM local time: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast,
 Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- 20th of each month: Deadline for submittal of articles for the following month's GARZETTE

GARS Communication System

6 Meter Repeater

444.525(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone

70 Cm Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz) 82.5 PL Tone

2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone

APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR/Relay Main Repeater Site
Oak Street, Lawrenceville
Backup Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain, Snellville
Remote Receive Sites
Bogan Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road,
Norcross
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or email to ka4kkf@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary. In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK does the final production work on The GARZETTE by folding & labeling. Bill Cherepay, WB4WTN, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Norm Schklar, wa4zxv, manages email delivery. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors. Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact: Newsletter Editor:

David Adcock ka4kkf (770-271-9398) ka4kkf@arrl.net

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society P.O. Box 88 Lilburn, GA 30048 Attn: Newsletter Editor

Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at www.arrl-ga.org

First Saturday, Even Months

9:00AM EOC Building Butch Nitz, AF4FS (770) 968-8780

First Wednesday

7:00 PM
ARRL/VEC
Roberts School
4681 School Street,
Acworth
Jodi Escher AG4BK
770-387-1591

Second Tuesday

7:00PM
Walton EMC
3645 Lenora Church Rd,
Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA
(770)498-7759

Second Saturday, Odd Months

ARRL VEC
8:30 AM
Stone Mountain Methodist
Church
5312 West Mountain St.
Stone Mountain
Bob Varone, W4ETN
(770) 978-3179

Third Saturday CA VEC

9:00AM
Marietta First United
Methodist Church Room 305,
56 Whitlock Ave
Marietta
David Still, WB4RRD
(770) 973-2566

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC
7:00 PM
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road,
Douglasville

Third Sunday

W5YI VEC
3:00 - 5:00 PM
Gwinnett County Public
Library
2780 Five Forks Trickum Rd
Lawrenceville , GA 30044
770-978-5600
Headphones Provided! Howie
Gould, W9HG (770)921-8362

Fourth Sunday

2:30 PM
Georgia Tech Student Center
Room 301
David Ziskind, KE4QLH
(404) 966-6864

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

<u>First Tuesday</u> Kennehoochee ARC

Southern Polytechnic State University Meeting begins at 7:30 PM Talk In 146.880(-)

Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC

Room W218
Van Leer Electrical
Engineering Bldg.
Georgia Tech Campus
Meeting at 7:00 PM

<u>First Thursday</u> Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30 PM Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Commerce Public Library
Meeting is at 6:30 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)
PL 123.0

Second Thursday Alford Memorial Radio Club

Annistown Road Baptist Church
Intersection of Annistown Rd
& Spain Rd
Stone Mountain
Dinner at 6:00 PM
Meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Third Tuesday North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Alpharetta EOC located at 2970 Webb Bridge Road, in Alpharetta meeting at 7:30 PM Talk In - 145.47(-)

First Saturday North GA QRP Club

Wieuca Baptist Church on Peachtree Rd/Wieuca, 10 AM

January GARS General Meeting

January 9, 2007

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, President, opened the meeting.

Sign up sheets for the Dog Show (February 2, 3, and 4) were passed around as were sign up sheets for TechFest (January 13).

First time guests were recognized.

Kelly Everest, K4NFX, was recognized for passing the code test to be a General Class licensee.

Introductions of members present were made.

A new feature of the meetings called "Quick Tips" was introduced and Bill, WB4WTN, gave a demonstration of a 15 meter resonator with a longer whip to work 20 meters.

The program, MARS – Military Affiliated Radio System – was presented by Vester, N8EKA. There was considerable interest and a number of questions.

Announcements:

Earl announced that one scholarship essay has been received and was available for viewing.

The membership will vote at the February meeting.

Membership report – 2 applications for membership were presented and all were voted into full membership.

Break.

TechFest was discussed and members were encouraged to attend.

The minutes from the November meeting were approved without correction.

The nominating committee report was given:

President - Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV (incumbent),

Vice-President – Earl Whatley, AF4FG (incumbent),

Treasurer – Amy Woodrick, KE4IKF (incumbent),

Activities Manager – Dave Bruse, W4DTR (incumbent), and

Secretary - Randy Collins, N4COR.

Nominations from the floor and elections will be held at the February meeting.

The treasurer's report was given by Amy Woodrick.

It was announced that Crystal Florea, KG4PYL, has completed her training at Camp Pendleton, California, and is going overseas.

There was no old business.

Dave, W4DTR, announced that the updated by-laws are available on the GARS web site.

Prize drawing was held.

It was announced that the 6 meter net is now meeting at 6pm on Wednesdays.

Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Prepared by Randy Collins, acting secretary

LETS TALK

Ever wonder how it is that some of us become complacent with ourselves and sit on the sidelines watching others and never move a finger to become part of the crowd while there is a scurry of activity by others who appear to be having a good time? It's all in the makeup of us all and it has a profound effect on how we mix with the crowd.

Lets talk about that now and see if you are in the mix of what makes you tick as a ham radio operator. At the very beginning of our venture into ham radio we all had one or two very special reasons for wanting to be involved with radio and our reasons had to outweigh the chances of failing the test and the study involved and we also had visions of what we wanted to get out of this venture ahead that was a mystery yet to unfold.

Chances are that you not once gave thought to the financial aspects and based your purchase of a radio upon various inputs given by some local club gathering or maybe some local ham neighbor or radio store and now that you got your license you have found a few obstacles in the way that were not there at the beginning and you are lost as to what direction to take. Equipment is a matter of individual choice, many a ham has been misled into purchasing a piece of equipment on someone's advice where they quickly trade for another, let your instincts be your guide, there is no magic to equipment and the difference in price can be substantial. It is one time you need to be cautious.

Fear not for you are not alone and with one course in mind all the mystery and hidden secrets of getting to be part of the crowd is near at hand and all it will take after your equipment purchase to get you on the air and for you to mix in with the crowd will be for you to talk!!! Yes I said talk!!!

Ham radio operators have one thing in common and that is talking, and most all that I have met do a lot of that and they also take command of the moment relishing in being the center of conversation. Listen to some QSO's on any active band and there is always one ham in charge of the conversation in a roundtable and the rest will occasionally verify his points being made. The topic can be about most anything besides radio, and the talk goes on just about any time of the day and night so there is no excuse for you not to get on the air and talk. If you find a conversation to your liking, wait for an opportune time when they are all making ID of their call signs and then say your call sign and ask may you join them. Chances are you will be recognized and you're into the conversation.

In the likelihood you were born a quiet person with limited vocal aptitudes you can still find a place in ham radio as a valued listener or if you have a little skill for Morse code you can really shine there as no one can tell who you are or anything about you until you tell them with your finger tips, heck they won't even know if your a male or female and this can be an advantage to some who are extremely bashful and quiet. But then again with today's QRZ call sign lookup it's hard to hide that from savvy operators.

Out of all the modes of operating available to us hams voice is still a favorite as it gives us that personalized moment when the whole world can hear our voice, and some of us have gone to extremes in financial outlay in audio equipment to have our voices sound like the best of commercial broadcast stations, but you don't have to go to that extreme use the basic stuff it works fine.

So remember to get ahead in ham radio "lets talk" is the key to success, and lets face it its far better to be part of the crowd than to be watching from the sidelines

Howie ----- W9HG

I attended my first VOAD meeting in January. They meet quarterly so that is how often you can look forward to hearing from me. I'm J.D. Fry, your eyes and ears at VOAD. The voice remains my own and I take sole responsibility for it.

VOAD stands for **Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster.** And we (ARES) are a member. So are FEMA, The Red Cross, The Salvation Army, Patriotic Pets, more religious groups than I knew existed, and many others. For a full list visit their web site http://www.geocities.com/gavoad/.

VOAD is not a service organization. Although VOAD may play some part during and after a disaster most if not all of its contribution will be before the fact. The primary purpose of VOAD is to provide a forum for voluntary organizations to

.

share ideas and information.
coordinate training and planning
provide a louder voice when dealing with government organizations.

Many of the VOAD members will be quick to point out that VOAD is much more than that. For "VOAD on VOAD" visit their web site at http://www.geocities.com/gavoad/.

I found the VOAD members to be an "interesting" collection of people and organizations, each with their own agenda bound together by the common desire to provide some form of aid in time of disaster. For the most part each was focused squarely on their own area of interest and for the most part rely on government structure and aid to help them accomplish their goals.

This was particularly interesting since the main presentation at this meeting was on the coming pandemic. As a ARES member I, and I am sure many of you, have been though three other pandemic presentations all of which went into more detail than this one so I will not repeat all of that information here. The same basic information of, 30+% loss of work force, 3 waves of infection, lasting about 3 months each still apply.

If some of you have missed out on all the pandemic presentations let us know and we'll see if we can post links to some of the better ones.

All of the handouts and literature went out of its way to spell out that when the pandemic hits you are on your own and here is how you should prepare. The presenter being from a government agency downplayed the "your on your own" aspect and tried to point out the things that government was planning to make things better during the event.

My favorite was the plan to use airline reservation operators to help staff the emergency phones since there might not be many people flying and there would be an increase in emergency phone calls. I offered the thought that the phones might not be working very well for a few days (or more) since it only takes a few thousand calls (10k?) to lock up a local switch. The feeling in the room was the phones, like the government, would always be there.

I seem to recall a sayingWhen all else failssomething? Don't remember the rest but I'm sure it will come to me.

It was however the first time I had heard government members participating in a discussion on a proposed plan to close the schools during a pandemic. It went on to suggest restricting kids to their homes. And that this could be for the three waves of 3 months. There was some small discussion on the impact of such a move on the education process, taxes, and possible cost savings having the schools closed.

The discussion stopped short of the realization that such a plan would likely (in my opinion) require one healthy parent to remain home with the kids during that time reducing the work force potentially another 50% bringing the potential workers out to 80+%.

I look for extra opportunity and possibilities in each new situation and I think I found some at VOAD for ARES. I may have found an untapped resource. After I consult with those wiser than me in the ways of ARES and have my thoughts validated (or not) I will share them with everyone (or not) in the next installment of "J.D. in VOAD Land".

"When all else fails Amateur Radio" I knew it would come to me.

Interested in Emergency Communications?

It's hard to miss the comments on the value of Amateur Radio when any disaster is mentioned. We all remember Katrina and how cell phones, landline telephones, police and all normal communications were all knocked out of service. When the hurricane had passed and we all realized the damage along the Gulf Coast, hundreds of Amateur Radio volunteers were dispatched to the area and provided the first, and in many cases, the only communications for a period of time. This scenario gets played out over and over around the country and around the world as Amateur Radio proves it can get through "when all else fails".

Many of us are not able to travel hundreds of miles to help for days and weeks on end. However, you may serve just as important a role locally should the need arise. You may ask yourself, "Am I prepared to help"? That's what the Amateur Radio Emergency Service or ARES is all about.

Gwinnett County is home to one of the largest and best prepared ARES groups in Georgia and around the South. Gwinnett ARES members are prepared to help with emergency and public service communications in many different ways. If this sounds interesting, you owe it to your self to check it out. It's as easy as visiting our website, www.gwinnettares.org.

What's in it for you? First, you'll learn how to prepare yourself and your family for emergencies. You can learn how to become a trained and effective communicator to assist with all kinds of events and emergencies. Finally, you can receive training and experience through exercises and events designed to help you become an effective member of an organization recognized by Gwinnett County as a valuable service to the community.

Many Gwinnett ARES members are also members of GARS. The two organizations cooperate on many levels to provide a public service. If this sounds interesting, visit the website, check into a net on Monday evenings or attend one of the monthly meetings.

John Davis WB4QDX Emergency Coordinator Gwinnett Amateur Radio Emergency Service

SPECIAL EXAM DATE FEB 25 FOR GENERAL CLASS UPGRADES. FEB 18 DATE MOVED UP TO ACCOMMODATE THOSE WHO WANT TO TAKE EXAM. TIME 1 TO 6

- Primary areas served: East Atlanta and Gwinnett County, GA
 - Location: (new location for our exams effective November 19, 2006)
- Gwinnett County Public Library Five Forks Branch
- 2780 Five Forks Trickum Rd
- o Lawrenceville, GA 30044
- o 770-978-5600
 - o Contact: Howie Gould W9HG 770-921-8362, Cell 404-310-3060, w9hg@arrl-ga.org
- Bring original license and copy
- Minors must have 2 forms of ID and SS number
- All credits for prior elements passed must be
- originals and copies of same.
- Exam fee is \$14.00 for 2007.
- Walk-ins welcome

O

 Library Hours 1 to 6 on Sunday we will test from 3:00 to 5:00 PM Directions: ON MAPQUEST

Do you know a boy or girl 14 to 21 years old who wants to:

Climb, Hike
Canoe, Camp
Talk on an amateur radio
Have Fun
Tell them about

Venture Crew 73

We meet the second Tuesday of each Month at 7:00PM prior to the GARS meeting at St. Marguerite D'Youville Church..

For more information Visit www.gars.org/crew73 or contact Ray Back:

Email <u>crew73@gars.org</u> Phone **(770) 295-9174**

A 20 Meter Mobile Antenna

By Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN

In the County Hunter column on page 34 of the January 2007 issue of World Radio Dennis Hall, KK7X writes about mobile antennas that he has used while operating mobile from an 18-wheeler. He said that one of the best antennas he used for 20 meters was a Hustler system where he took a 15 resonator and replaced the existing whip section with a 42" whip. When compared with a 20 meter Hamstick the majority of the stations he made contacts with said the Hustler with the modified 15 meter resonator out-performed the Hamstick. Since I happened to have a Hustler system already installed on my Honda Pilot, I decided to give this a try. I went to HRO and bought a 48" whip, took it home, installed it in my 15 meter Super Resonator and mounted it on the Hustler mast. I first checked the antenna with an antenna analyzer and found the even with the whip extended to the full 48' the antenna resonated just above the top end of 20 meters. I was able to tune the antenna with the built-in tuner on my Kenwood TS-480. Using it on-air I have received excellent signals reports from a number of stations. Rooney, 6Y5RP, Net Control Station for the Maritime Mobile Service Net on 14.3 MHz said it sounded as if I was there on the Island!

I should point out that this is a rather tall antenna. The mast is 54", the resonator about 6" and the whip 48". This adds up to about 9'. But if you feel up to a little experimenting, give this a try. You might like the results.

Editor's Corner

I am the Editor of the GARZETTE and the Web page. I hope you enjoy the articles and the web content. Every now and then I do require some help with providing articles for the GARZETTE. It would be appreciated if you could drop a short story now and again to me to be added to the paper. I try to make the articles interesting but I need to know what you like to read. Is it all about radios, antennas or computers? What the club is doing this month or next month. Drop me a line at ka4kkf@arrl.net to voice your opinion.

The web page is a collection of what the club has done and what is coming up. If you find a link that doesn't work send me an email to correct it.

Six meters is active again. Join us on Wednesday night at 2100 local time on the GARS six meter repeater. 73 until next time. KA4KKF

GARS APPAREL ORDER FORM

NAME:	PHONE #	
CALL:	_	
NAME TO BE EMBROIDERED:	_	
CALL SIGN TO BE EMBROIDERED.		

ITEM	SIZE	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
T-SHIRT				
Red WITHOUT name & call			\$20.00	
White WITHOUT name & call			\$20.00	
Red WITH name & call			\$20.00	
White WITH name & call			\$20.00	
GOLF SHIRT WITHOUT name & call				
Red			\$24.00	
White			\$24.00	
GOLF SHIRT WITH name & call				
Red			\$28.00	
White			\$28.00	
SWEATSHIRT				
Red WITHOUT name & call			\$30.00	
White WITHOUT name & call			\$30.00	
Red WITH name & call			\$30.00	
White WITH name & call			\$30.00	
LIGHTWEIGHT JACKET RED ONLY				
WITHOUT name & call			\$31.00	
WITH name & call			\$35.00	
HEAVYWEIGHT JACKET RED ONLY				
WITHOUT name & call			\$41.00	
WITH name & call			\$45.00	
GARS BADGE WITH name & call			\$9.00	
HAT WITHOUT name & call				
Red			\$9.00	
White			\$9.00	
HAT WITH name & call				
Red			\$14.00	
White			\$14.00	

TOTAL ORDER PRICE:

Please attach your check made payable to GARS and return to Amy Woodrick, KE4lKF or mail to:

GARS

P.O. Box 88

Lilburn, Georgia 30048

NOTE: Please allow at least 4 weeks for delivery of items. Some items may need to be special ordered.

Thanks and 73s! -- Amy KE4IKF

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society P.O. Box 88 Lilburn, GA 30048

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW MEMBER

RENEWAL

Address	Amateur Call Sign	License Class	Novice	Technician	General	
City State Zip	Name		Advanced	Extra		
Home Telephone Work Telephone Cell Telephone Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yy) ARRL Member Yes No Life Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yy) ARRL Member Yes No Life Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yy) Interests I prefer to receive the GARZETTE newsletter by: US Mail Email (please check only one) Type of Membership	Address					
Cell Telephone	City State	Zip				
ARRL Member Yes No Life Interests	Email address		_			
Interests	Home Telephone	Work Teleph	none			
Interests	Cell Telephone	_ Date of Birth	/_	(mm/dd/yy)	
I prefer to receive the GARZETTE newsletter by: US Mail Email (please check only one) Type of Membership Optional Contributions Individual \$30.00 annually Student \$15.00 annually Senior \$15.00 annually (over age 65) Family ** \$35.00 annually ** Available for family members residing at the same address Additional Family Members ** Name Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yy) License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life Interests Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yy) License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life Interests Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yy) License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life Interests Date of Birth / / (mm/dd/yy) License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life Interests Date of Birth / / / (mm/dd/yy) License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life Interests Date of Birth / / / (mm/dd/yy)	ARRL Member Yes No Life					
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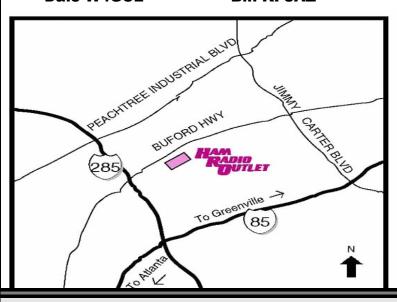
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Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society P.O. Box 88 Lilburn, GA 30048



To receive the **Garzette** via e mail contact, please contact the membership chairman

Saturday Morning

Breakfast

Join us at the Golden Coral on Riverside Drive in

Lawrenceville at 7:30 a.m.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 13 the

Meetings are on the

Second Tuesday of the month 7:30pm at the St Marguerite

D'Youville Church,

85 Gloster Rd NW,

Lawrenceville, GA 30044. Just off Highway 29 SW of Lawrenceville.

Directions on the Web site.

http://www.gars.org

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